

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

SAM-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 COME-00

INT-08 FEA-02 CIEP-02 DRC-01 /140 W

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R 200228Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 903

DOD WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 2141

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS,ID

SUBJECT: UPI ARTICLE BY ROBERT KAYLOR ENTITLED "US STEPS
UP MILITARY PRESENCE IN INDMTESIA"

REF : CINCPAC 6529 (NOTAL)

1. KAYLOR ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN FOLLOWING HIS VISIT TO
JAKARTA DECEMBER 1973, AND IS BASED LARGELY ON BRIEF-
INGS HE RECEIVED FROM EMBASSY OFFICERS. IT RAN IN
US AND INDONESIAN NEWSPAPERS AS EARLY AS DECEMBER.

2. ARTICLE CONTAINS DATA ON US MILITARY ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM IN INDONESIA THAT HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN MADE
PUBLIC. ALTHOUGH FACTS CITED IN ARTICLE ARE GENERALLY
ACCURATE, ITS TITLE AND TONE TEND TO EXAGGERATE SCOPE
OF PROGRAM. ALSO, LANGUAGE IN PARAGRAPH 4 ABOUT
PRESENCE OF "SPECIAL FORCES GREEN BERETS" DURING RECENT
YEARS CREATES MISLEADING IMPRESSION THAT USDLG PERSONNEL
HAVE BEEN SECRETLY ADVISING INDONESIAN ARMED FORCES IN
MILITARY OR TACTICAL OPERATIONS, OR ARE ENGAGED IN OTHER
COVERT ACTIVITIES.

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3. ALSO CONSTRUCTION OF SENTENCE BEGINNING "INDONESIA HAS PLENTY OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE..." MISLEADING SINCE RATIONALE FOR GRANT MILITARY AID TO PERMIT GOI TO GIVE PRIMACY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WAS ESTABLISHED LONG BEFORE RECENT INCREASES IN OIL PRICES GREATLY STRENGTHENED INDONESIA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE POSITION. RATIONALE FOR MILITARY, AS WELL AS ECONOMIC, AID TO INDONESIA WILL REQUIRE REVIEW IN LIGHT OF NEW CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. IN SHORT, WE DOUBT ARTICLE HAS HAD A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. IT MADE VIRTUALLY NO IMPRESSION WHEN PUBLISHED HERE IN JAKARTA. WE DO NOT ENCOURAGE PUBLICITY ABOUT INDONESIA MAP; HOWEVER, WHEN QUERIED BY THE PRESS OUR POLICY IS TO BE CANDID AND FACTUAL IN ORDER TO AVOID IMPRESSION THAT WE HAVE SOMETHING TO HIDE AND TO STRESS THAT OUR OBJECTIVES ARE CLEARCUT AND PURE UNDER NIXON DOCTRINE CONCEPT.
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Message Attributes

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